

DAILY CONFEDERATE.

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BY THE GOVERNOR:

A PROCLAMATION, TO THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

WHEREAS, It is incumbent on me by virtue of the high trusts your partiality has conferred upon me to watch with vigilance over your welfare, guard with fidelity your interests; and warn you of every approaching danger:

Now therefore, I, ZEBULON B. VANCE, Governor of the said State, actuated by a sacred sense of duty and love of country, do deem it necessary to address you in this manner in regard to the dangers and duties of the present time; earnestly praying that it may be conducive to harmony and good will, wherein is to be found a safe and honorable deliverance from all our troubles. It is known to you all, that in the beginning of those troubles, North Carolina was so decidedly opposed to initiating the secession of her Southern sisters, that any attempt to force her to do so by even a majority of her people, prior to the Proclamation of Lincoln in 1861, would most likely have resulted in civil war, among our own citizens.

I pleased God, however, to prevent

this calamity, and to calm all the fierce passions of party-bitterness, and to cause the most perfect unanimity by means of that Proclamation, which placed before us the dire necessity of either assisting or slaughtering our own brothers and friends. Interest, honor and sympathy combined to decide upon resistance to what all united in condemning as a cruel and wicked war upon the homes and liberties of the South. With unexampled zeal we entered into the war, rushed forward our bravest sons, and poured out our richest treasures—With immense sacrifices, and varying fortunes, we continued the struggle, still with great unanimity for years. About the end of the third year, however, a portion of our people in common with many others throughout the South, seeing how our best citizens were failing, and how our fairest lands were desolated, began to urge that peace should be sought by negotiations as well as by the sword. They argued that our Confederate authorities, moved by pride of opinion and embittered by the high and fierceness of the conflict, had not made a sufficient trial of statesmanship as a means of stopping the war; that no doubt if properly approached, either commissioners appointed by our common government, or by the States separately—supposing diplomatic reasons would prevent the enemy from treating with the former—that our enemy would grant us better terms than we had supposed, and promising that if a fair and honest effort at negotiation should be spurned by the enemy or rejected, then all classes and conditions of men in the South would unite in an earnest prosecution of the war. This was the first serious approach to a division among our people. Sympathizing with their reasonableness of this demand, though not with all the reasons given for believing in its efficacy, and being as sincerely desirous as it was possible for man to be, to stop the war on honorable terms, I, as your Governor, addressed President Davis in December, 1863, and urged this course upon him. In answer thereto, he assured me that three separate and distinct efforts had been made to treat with the enemy, without obtaining even a hearing and that he did not see how a fourth one could be initiated without humiliating to ourselves and injury to our cause.

Trusting that Providence would yet open the way, the matter rested here for another year. Many, however, of our people, who advocated peace upon such vague and ill-defined terms as to cause doubts of their good faith and loyalty, continued sedulously to disseminate the opinion, that our own government alone was to blame for the continuance of the war, going so far in some instances as to threaten revolutionary measures for wresting the treaty-making power from its hands, and negotiating with the enemy ourselves, alleging that we could certainly get such terms if the States would act in their sovereign capacity, as would secure our property and slaves, by reconstruction. Since the beginning of the present year, however, two individuals from the North having visited Richmond on a peace mission, by the authority of President Lincoln, and having, as our President supposed, opened the way for another effort at negotiation, it was promptly made. He immediately sent a delegation through the lines for that purpose, consisting of Vice President Stephens, Judge Campbell, late of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the Hon. R. M. T. Hunter, Confederate Senator, from the State of Virginia, men all eminent for their abilities, public services, and the long continued confidence and respect of their countrymen. The first two are well known to have opposed the beginning of this war, and to sympathize with the general desire for negotiations. They were met at Fortress Monroe, by President Lincoln, and Mr. Seward, his Secretary of State, who, without allowing them to leave the boat on which they arrived, told them what appears in the following official report:

RICHMOND, Feb. 5, 1865.
To the President of the Confederate States:

Sir.—Under your letter of appointment of Commissioners of the 28th, we proceeded to seek an informal conference with Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States upon the subject mentioned in your letter. The conference was granted and took place on the 3rd inst., on board a steamer anchored in Hampton Roads where we met President Lincoln and Hon. Mr. Seward, Secretary of State for the United States. It continued for several hours and was both full and explicit. We learned from them that the message of President Lincoln to the Congress of the United States in December last explains clearly and distinctly his sentiments as to the terms, conditions, and mode of proceeding by which peace could be secured to the people, and we were not informed that they would be modified or altered to attain that end. We understood from him that no terms or proposals of any treaty or agreement looking to an ultimate settlement would be entertained or made by him with the authorities of the Confederate States because that would be a recognition of their existence as a separate power, while under no circumstances would be done, and for like reasons that no such terms would be entered into by him from States separate, that no extended truce or armistice as at present advised would be granted or allowed without a satisfactory assurance in advance of the complete restoration of the authority of the Constitution and laws of the United States over all places within the States of the Confederacy; that whatever circumstances may follow from the reestablishment of that authority must be kept out and out. Individuals subject to it tell you, in all candor, that when I sur-

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pairs and penalties under the laws of the United States, might rely up on a very liberal use of the power confided to him, to remit these pains and penalties if peace be restored during such conference.

The proposed amendments to the Constitution adopted by Congress on the 31st ult., were brought to our notice. These amendments provide that neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except for crime, should exist within the United States or in any place within its jurisdiction, and Congress should have power to enforce the amendments by appropriate legislation. Of all the correspondence mentioned and leading to the same, you have heretofore been informed.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servants,
A. H. STEPHENS,
R. M. T. HUNTER,
J. A. CAMPBELL.

Thus you see that neither terms nor conditions were spoken of in the interview, but only subjection offered us, the mere details of which they proposed to settle. At one blow, all our hopes in the humanity and moderation of our enemies were dashed to the ground. No terms or proposals of a treaty coming either from the Confederate States; or any one of the States would be entertained, but a complete, absolute and unconditional submission to the Constitution and laws of the United States, is required as a preliminary step to any, even the slightest cessation of hostilities. Seeing then that we can treat with the enemy, neither by the authorities of the Confederate States, nor by separate State action, what will be the result if we submit, as we are required to do? This we can partly judge by examining that constitution and those laws, to which we are required to yield obedience. That constitution is not the one we left. In addition to the changes it has undergone by corrupt and violent interpretation by Black Republican judges, its wording has been so changed as to degrade, immediately and forever, the abolition of slavery. The "laws" to whose tender mercies we are referred, provide most minutely and particularly for the punishment of death by the halter of every man, soldier, sailor or marine, civilian and others, who have been engaged in what they term rebellion. Not ceasing to punish with the death of the offender, the "laws" of the United States also provide that all his property, real and personal, shall be confiscated. The only mitigation of the rigor threatened by these laws, is contained in Mr. Lincoln's proclamation accompanying his annual message in December 1863, in which he proposes to hang only those above the rank of Colonel in the army and Lieutenant in the navy, and all civil and diplomatic officers or agents of the Confederate Government, and various other classes therein specified; coupled with a vague intimation to our commissioners in their recent interview, that whilst we must prepare to accept all the pains and penalties of the laws, we might rely on a literal use of the pardoning power, vested in him. He also informs us that the terms set forth in his recent message of December last, wherein he re-enacts the above mentioned proclamation will be rigidly adhered to.

Now, then, we can sum up, in some sort, the consequences of our submission. Four million slaves, two hundred thousand of whom have been in arms against us, turned loose at once in our midst, our lands confiscated, and sold out to pay the cost of our subjugation, or parcelled among negro soldiers, as the reward of the slaughter of their masters; our women, children and old men reduced to beggary, and driven from their once happy homes; our maimed and diseased soldiers, starving in rags from door to door, spurned by even pensioned negro soldiers, whilst the gallows grows weary under the burden of our wisest statesmen and bravest defenders; to say nothing of universal financial ruin and the intolerable oppression of a rapacious and vindictive foe, at the hour of our conquest. Great God! Is there a man in all this honorable, high-spirited and noble commonwealth, so steeped in every conceivable meanness, so blackened with all the guilt of treason, or so damned with all the leprosy of cowardice, as to say, yes, we will submit to all this! and whilst there yet remains a half million men amongst us to resist!

And who says the enemy will give us anything better? Not Mr. Lincoln; and do the weak and the vacillating among us, know better, than he does, what he will do for us?

Having made therefore a fair and honest effort to obtain peace by negotiation, and knowing now precisely, from the lips of the President of the United States, what we are to expect, what are we to do now? There is only one remedy, to the last extremity, or submit voluntarily to our own degradation. Let no man mistake the issue now. The line of partition will be drawn plainly between those who are for their country, and those who are against their country. There is no half-way house upon the road. The purifying fire is even now bursting tir through the land, and its consuming flames must separate the dross from the true metal. Degradation, ruin and dishonor to the one hand, liberty, independence and honor, if our souls be strong, to the other. Is it not worth another honest and manly effort? Aye, another, and another, and another, and a thousand efforts, of our whole people. As North Carolinians, descendants of revolutionary heroes, and fathers and brothers of the noblest dead and living soldiers that ever drew a blade for human freedom, we cannot tolerate the thought of such base and infamous submission.

Should we wilfully throw down an organization of Government, disband our still powerful armies, and invite all these fearful consequences upon our country, we would live to have our children curse our grey hairs for fastening our dishonor upon them.

I trust and believe that there will be little difference of opinion in North Carolina as to the propriety of continued resistance. The great argument which will be brought forward to shake your honor, are intended to incite you to despair, will be that successful resistance is no longer possible. Some will tell you that we are already subdued; that the enemy outnumbers us, that our fighting men are all slain; our resources exhausted and we might as well submit now. This, my countrymen, is false, and as frequently proceeds from a craven or a traitorous, as from an honest but mistaken spirit. Great as our calamities have been, straightened as we are for all supplies, both of men and material, for the restabilishment of that authority must be kept out and out. Individuals subject to it tell you, in all candor, that when I sur-

vey the condition by the light of human history, I see no danger which threatens to be fatal to our cause, except this depression of spirit among the people and the still more fearful risk of internal dissension. So long as we remain one and determined, it is not in the power of our enemies to subdue us.

"But except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved." All things may be supplied if we were but possessed of that bold and manly spirit of resistance to tyranny, of which liberty and independence are born. That alone can fill the widow's barrel on still the orphan's cry, can cast caustic and bold ships of war; can raise up armed men from the dust of the dragon's teeth, can wrest tangible realities from the very jaws of impossibility. Without it, numbers but add to the ignominy of certain defeat, even as the Persian millions were whipped and shamed by the three hundred in the mountain pass. Are our men all slain? Over four hundred thousand names yet stand upon the muster-rolls of the Confederacy, to say nothing of the many thousands who shirk. Where are they? Thousands upon thousands absent without leave, are lurking in the woods and swamps of the South. Are our provisions all gone? Hundreds of thousands of bushels of grain, nor rot at the various depots of the South to want of transportation; and this transportation cannot be protected because the absent soldiers are not at the post of duty. Oh! my countrymen! If you would rise to neutral, to shame, to drive them back to their country's standard. Has our territory been overrun? It has, but how much of it has been held? The enemy marched triumphantly through the heart of our sister Georgia, and is she conquered? Except for the garrison at Savannah and the ashes of desolation on their track through the interior, Georgia has neither enemy nor the sign of an enemy on her soil. So of most portions of the South, which space does not permit me to enumerate. For four years, their countless legions have gnawed at the vitals of Virginia, yet to-day they claim not even all of her territory which is swept by their cannon. The cities they garrison, the land their armies actually stand upon, and the waters ridden by their fleets, are all that they really hold, or ever can claim, except by our ignoble consent.

Let the balance of our cities go; Motile, Charleston, Wilmington, Richmond, all, and if we are determined to be free our subjugation is quite as distant as ever. For thank God, the Confederacy does not consist in stick and mortar, or particular spots of ground, however valuable they may be in a military point of view. Our nationality consists in our people. Liberty dwells in the heart of every one, and the rugged, bare-headed soldier standing in the depths of the west, or in the shadow of the mountain, can hear her sacra, which will be as sweet and as acceptable as those proffered in glorious temples in the midst of magnificent cities. So if our country and its cause, like the Kingdom of God, be enbraced in our hearts, then, indeed am I persuaded, that neither principals nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor life nor death, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from that independence and honor for which our people have suffered and our sons have died.

Therefore, my countrymen, having warned you of this danger which is upon us, I now appeal to you by everything held sacred among men, to bear yourselves as becomes one high lineage and future hope. I implore you to lay down all party bitterness, and to encircle to your neighbor for the sake of our country; to use every possible exertion to restore absences to the army; to divide our abundance freely with the poor and the suffering; to strengthen the arms of your rulers, and to sustain your soldiers and their Generals; and to give cheerfully your aid physical, mental, and moral, in whatever sphere you may be, to prevent the degradation of our country, and the ruin of its people.

This practice, wisely and vigorously employed, are ample, and with a brave army, sustained by a determined and united people, success with God's assistance, cannot be doubted.

Those who have deserted, or who have been compelled to accept the pardon now offered, or who shall hereafter desert or absent themselves without leave, shall suffer such punishment as the Courts of Justice will inflict, with no application for clemency, or for pardon.

Taking now resolution from the fate which our enemies intend for us, let every man devote all his energies to the common defence.

Our resources, wisely and vigorously employed, are ample, and with a brave army, sustained by a determined and united people, success with God's assistance, cannot be doubted.

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D. H. MCRAE, Editor.

All letters or business of the Office, to be directed to A. M. GORMAN & CO., Esq.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1865.

Newspaper

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The office of the *Confederate* needs an associate Editor and general business manager and superintendent, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of A. M. Gorman, Esq. Applications will be received to fill this vacancy. Those applying must be practical Printers, and of sufficient experience to take the management of a large concern, with ability to give suitable references.

Address, EDITOR CONFEDERATE.

Whoever will read the article which we publish to-day, signed by Mr. Speaker Bocock, of the House of Representatives, in his own behalf and that of his colleagues in Congress, will wonder and be sad; but if he is not a Virginian—especially if he be a North Carolinian—will laugh in spite of his grief. He will wonder to see how far eminent and wise men can wander out of the path of their own duty, to trench upon the prerogatives of others. He will be sad to see how ill a time should have been selected for the aggression, and he will laugh to see that the “pit which they digged for others, they have fallen into themselves;” and how ludicrously serious they are crawling out of it. If a North Carolinian—the mirth will be the more agreeable, because it will afford opportunity for a much-ridiculed people to retort upon their annoyers, who, in this instance, happens to be a fit subject for jest.

It seems from the narrative of Mr. Bocock, that during the present session of Congress, the delegation from Virginia assembled to consult upon the danger imperiling the country. It was about the middle of January, after they had been in session since November. Their conference was secret, and sacred—more especially, relating to “certain public affairs peculiarly affecting the State of Virginia.” After a frank interchange of views, it was resolved that the opinion of the delegation respecting a change of the cabinet should be made known to the President—that opinion being that one of the most “important measures would be a general reconstruction of his cabinet.”

This advice, thus tendered by the delegation, that the President would dissolve his political family, did himself, at the most important crisis, of his cabinet counsellors, and look out for a new household, was the result of their various deliberations, and was communicated by Speaker Bocock—who is a most clever and courteous gentleman—in his “most friendly, respectful and confidential manner.” We have no doubt, as it was courteously given, it was politely received; but the President had not asked for it, and he was not inclined to follow it. It had, however, one evil effect. The Hon. Mr. Seddon was wounded by this action of the delegation from his own State, and under the pressure of injured sensibilities, he resigned his post as Secretary of War; and, the President thus saw that if the matter were left alone, he might be put at the mercy of Congressional delegations, who, in turn, might drive out the several members and force a cabinet reconstruction upon him, *natus volens*. Whereupon, he wrote to Mr. Seddon, not seeking to sway his purpose, but protesting against the doctrine which his resignation might imply. In that letter he very logically and conclusively shows that not even the legislative department of the government itself, much less a delegation in Congress, from one State, has either the power or right to “control the continuance of the principal officers in each of the Executive Departments.”

The constitution vests in the President the choice of their cabinet ministers. It imposes on him the obligation to seek their counsel; and their tenure of office being simply the “pleasure of the President”—and the object of the constitution being to establish between them, his chosen counsellors and the President, relations of the most intimate and confidential character—the advice, unsolicited, of any body of men, to the President, to break up his selections and choose anew, was a venturesome act—one of supererogation. As well might they have counselled him to resign himself; for it was not to be supposed that a change of cabinet would introduce a change of administration; nevertheless, in view of what he did do, we would not be surprised if they went further, and, in the most friendly spirit, advised President Davis, when he came to select a new cabinet, by no means to choose those who approved the policy of his administration.

In his letter to Mr. Seddon, the President draws the contrast between the relations of a cabinet minister in the Confederacy, to the government and the relations of one in England; and demonstrate, from this contrast, how little it is in accordance with “the constitutional functions of the Legislative Department, to interfere with the relations between him and his cabinet.” It was due to himself that he should write this letter, and due to the public, who had already begun to hear that a plot was afoot to overthrow the administration by a congressional calumny, of which the Virginia delegation was the head. Happ-

ily the letter of the President, and the signature of Mr. Bocock, set the humor at rest. By this time the Virginia delegation must see two things: That their act was extremely injurious, for however friendly it might be, and however undesigned “to abate the constitutional authority of the Presidential office, or to take from the country the guiding influence of a President in whom we (they) greatly confide.” Yet, it had this very effect; for it robbed the chief magistrate, against his consent, of an esteemed and valued counsellor,” and secondly, that their time might have been more usefully occupied, in passing the great measures which the necessities of a nation were imploring at their hands. The people will hardly look with satisfaction on this Congressional delegation thrusting itself before the President, with unasked advice, that he would rupture his cabinet, when they, and their colleagues, after a session of two months, in the most trying crisis of the nation, had not matured a single measure, whether of his or their suggestion, by which the Executive arm has to be strengthened, so as to carry on the defense of the country. It was an intrusion, and was legitimately exposed.

More than this. If reports in the country do not belie the action of that delegation, they had not entitled themselves to be the special advisers of the President; for report saith that they had before given him counsel about the suspension of the *habeas corpus*. Applications will be received to fill this vacancy. Those applying must be practical Printers, and of sufficient experience to take the management of a large concern, with ability to give suitable references.

Address, EDITOR CONFEDERATE.

The fact of it is, there has been an inordinate proneness on the part of Governors, State Legislatures, and members of Congress, to intrude upon the President’s prerogatives, and to make issues with him. And this has always been done amid the cry of “strip thief!” On the other hand, the conduct of the administration, so far as the exercise of power is concerned, will challenge comparison for forbearance and abstemiousness.

We hope this matter will end where it is. Unless Mr. Bocock and his associates wish to contribute to hand us over, in manacles, to the Yankees, he, and they, will rally against the enemy; legislate to reform the army; inspire the people; and leave Senator Wigfall, who is harmlessly, to make war upon the administration. We say the Senator is harmless, because he has no longer the aid of Mr. Foote. When they were together there was danger. But, we cannot let go without telling the joke of it. Mr. Bocock says—“the delegation, in advising the President, did not discriminate among the Heads, &c.” Let some head be struck off—not particular which—so that one exception were made. This is frankly confessed—“we expected, and desired that, at least, one exception would be made.” We wanted some “head,” but by no means, touch a Virginian. Well, the fun is, they bowed at the alley; and knocked down the very pins they desired to miss; and now they have to mourn that Virginia is left out of the cabinet, and they are obliged to apologize to Mr. Seddon. “If we have unintentionally wounded his sensibilities, we deeply regret it.” Funny, very funny. The first time Virginia was ever caught in such a snap. A good lesson to people to mind their own business.

Deserters are committing outrages and depredations all over the State. We are informed by a correspondent that a band of deserters in Pitt county, on the 13th inst., arrested, near Franklin, Messrs. Simon and Kirder Kittrell, and a school teacher by the name of Smith, and after knocking them down, and beating them unmercifully, carried them off with the avowed intention of hanging them, but the deserters becoming intoxicated with liquor, they made their escape. Our correspondent says a bad state of affairs exists in that country, and calls on the Governor to send the people some protection.

Many of the sick and wounded from the Columbia hospitals have been transferred to the Hospitals of this place.

AFFAIRS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—For the last day or two, rumors have been rife here of disagreeable news from South Carolina, but in the absence of anything reliable, we refuse to publish them.

We believe there is now no doubt of the fact of the occupation of Columbia, by Sherman’s forces. It is said a severe battle was fought on Friday in the neighborhood of the city, but our forces were forced to retreat, leaving the city in the enemy’s hands. The Charlotte *Bulletin* of Saturday morning, does not contain a word in relation to the matter; and we have been unable to obtain any particulars.

Many of the sick and wounded from the Columbia hospitals have been transferred to the Hospitals of this place.

THE FEELING IN THE ARMY.—Col. Thos. S. Flournoy, and Mr. Funsten, of the House of Representatives, addressed a large body of troops in Pickett’s Division, by invitation, one day last week. The stirring and eloquent sentiments of the speakers were enthusiastically responded to by the troops. The best spirit prevailed.

The War News.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—The *Guardian*, of the 16th, says that the news from the front is brief, but most important. Skirmishing is going on with the advance of the enemy on Thom’s creek, the stream next below Congaree creek in Lexington District, about twelve miles from Columbia. The enemy, it appears, arrived at a point ten miles this side of Jascoats on Monday night, from which they advanced to Thom’s creek yesterday morning.

The city is now the centre of active military operations. Dispositions are being made, which we hope will be sufficient to baffle the enemy’s designs and ensure his discomfiture. The *Wilmington Journal*, of Friday evening, 17th, contains the following:

We look upon the fall of Columbia as the prelude to a glorious change of luck. Some one said to us a day or two ago, that “we had reached the bottom.” We are pretty low down, it is true, and it is not unreasonable now, to expect that “we may go up.”

The Assistant Secretary of War has telegraphed to Lieut. Genl. Holmes that a general exchange has been agreed upon; and all the Yankee prisoners will be delivered in fifteen days. We notice gangs passing through this place daily. When they go, we hope there will not be one left. Now is a good time for any one so disposed to “fall into line.”

In the interim, while we are looking about for an Associate editor, we would be glad if Generals Braggard, or Hood, or Hardee, or Braxton, or Hoke, would write us an article or two. The defeat of Sherman or Schofield, or any like topic, would have preference.

THE COMMISSIONER-GENERAL.—The appointment by the President, of Colonel Isaac M. St. John Commissary General of the Confederate States has been confirmed by the Senate. The new Commissary-General will enter at once upon the discharge of his duties.

play the letter of the President, and the signature of Mr. Bocock, set the humor at rest. By this time the Virginia delegation must see two things: That their act was extremely injurious, for however friendly it might be, and however undesigned “to abate the constitutional authority of the Presidential office, or to take from the country the guiding influence of a President in whom we (they) greatly confide.” Yet, it had this very effect; for it robbed the chief magistrate, against his consent, of an esteemed and valued counsellor,” and secondly, that their time might have been more usefully occupied, in passing the great measures which the necessities of a nation were imploring at their hands. The people will hardly look with satisfaction on this Congressional delegation thrusting itself before the President, with unasked advice, that he would rupture his cabinet, when they, and their colleagues, after a session of two months, in the most trying crisis of the nation, had not matured a single measure, whether of his or their suggestion, by which the Executive arm has to be strengthened, so as to carry on the defense of the country. It was an intrusion, and was legitimately exposed.

Fayetteville, too, has done as much as any town of proportionate means in the Confederacy, in men and money; and done it quietly, unostentatiously; but liberally, self-sacrificingly and patriotically. And her sons, in the bloodiest dangers, have faithfully represented the courage, the dignity and the true patriotism of that excellent community. But, Fayetteville must, by this time, know that a war-meeting and resolutions are but the feathers of the fowl—“small part of the game.” They are good and useful in themselves; but, in the great necessities, they are scarce anything. We must not only pledge life, property, and sacred honor, to our friends; but we must hurl defiance, hate and vengeance at our foes. Fayetteville does that—this we doubt not—but her representatives do not always do this. It is time for them to begin. When in the last session of the Legislature Mr. Samuel F. Phillips began to assail the Government, we saw through his movement; and we are no more convinced of his Yankee proclivities now, since he has made a submission speech at Chapel Hill, to the disgust of the good citizens of that place, than we were when he opened on the Government in the last Legislature. We thought, then, that he ought to be exposed, and we exposed him; not as bad, it is true, as he afterwards exposed himself, when he undertook to show how he concocted a scheme by which he might fill several places of trust at the same time, receive the profits, and evade the service, and yet how, for one youth, he ought to have been at the disposal of the Bureau of Conscription.

After all this, Mr. Shepherd and Mr. Wright undertook to whitewash Mr. Phillips. Mr. Shepherd, in that style which is called *dukesina*; and Mr. Wright, in a more broadfooted and practical way. They could not heap too much on him.

Now, our opinion is that if any one of the numerous ladies, who attended the war meeting in Fayetteville, had been representing her in the Legislature, she would have had better judgement and better patriotism, than to have fallen into the homage of Mr. Phillips, as Messrs. Shepherd and Wright did.

We must learn to hate Yankee enemies, and oppose them as well these who live among us as those in Boston.

AFFAIRS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—For the last day or two, rumors have been rife here of disagreeable news from South Carolina, but in the absence of anything reliable, we refuse to publish them.

We believe there is now no doubt of the fact of the occupation of Columbia, by Sherman’s forces. It is said a severe battle was fought on Friday in the neighborhood of the city, but our forces were forced to retreat, leaving the city in the enemy’s hands. The Charlotte *Bulletin* of Saturday morning, does not contain a word in relation to the matter; and we have been unable to obtain any particulars.

Many of the sick and wounded from the Columbia hospitals have been transferred to the Hospitals of this place.

THE FEELING IN THE ARMY.—Col. Thos. S. Flournoy, and Mr. Funsten, of the House of Representatives, addressed a large body of troops in Pickett’s Division, by invitation, one day last week. The stirring and eloquent sentiments of the speakers were enthusiastically responded to by the troops. The best spirit prevailed.

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We have written and satisfied, the large and enthusiastic war meeting which was held in Fayetteville on Thursday last, and the patriotic resolutions which were passed. Fayetteville was entitled to speak among the first. She is intimately associated with the first glory of the war. It was her sons who met Butler at Great Bethel, and contributed to produce in his human bosom the emotions of satisfaction, which have just come to light, that Great Bethel was not Massassas, or the Wilderness, or Cold Harbor, or other places where lives were sacrificed.

Fayetteville, too, has done as much as any town of proportionate means in the Confederacy, in men and money; and done it quietly, unostentatiously; but liberally, self-sacrificingly and patriotically. And her sons, in the bloodiest dangers, have faithfully represented the courage, the dignity and the true patriotism of that excellent community. But, Fayetteville must, by this time, know that a war-meeting and resolutions are but the feathers of the fowl—“small part of the game.” They are good and useful in themselves; but, in the great necessities, they are scarce anything. We must not only pledge life, property, and sacred honor, to our friends; but we must hurl defiance, hate and vengeance at our foes. Fayetteville does that—this we doubt not—but her representatives do not always do this. It is time for them to begin.

At the beginning of the present year, the Confederacy was thought by many to be in extra ordinary danger in consequence of a series of misfortunes. The public spirit was depressed. Apprehensions for the public safety were increased by a belief that our misfortunes were partly the result of mal-administration. Prompt, energetic and judicious measures appeared to be necessary for the restoration of the public confidence. But, the friendly advice of a delegation, or the more authentic counsel of Congress, should be repudiated in such a manner, with such claims and at such a time, is a circumstance which we deplore for the sake of our country, and, let us add, for the sake of the President. It will not provoke us to a resentful controversy.

A meeting of the delegation was held about the middle of January, in which certain public affairs, peculiarly affecting the safety of Virginia, were considered. In the same meeting, after a frank interchange of views, it was resolved that the opinion of the delegation respecting a change of the Cabinet should be made known to the President as the advice of friends.

A member of the Speaker of the House was deputed to communicate the advice in the most friendly, respectable and confidential manner to the President, with suitable explanation of the motives and views of the delegation.

It was authorized to communicate also with any of the Heads of Departments, but, otherwise, the proceedings were to be regarded as confidential. The communication was accordingly made to the President, in person and by letter, and he received it, as we supposed, in the same spirit of patriotism, candor and friendship which had prompted the action of the delegation.

The advice thus tendered by the delegation was that a general reconstruction of the Cabinet should be made to restore the public sentiment and was accordingly made to the President, in person and by letter, and he received it, as we supposed, in the same spirit of patriotism, candor and friendship which had prompted the action of the delegation.

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